

To: McKean, Deborah[mckean.deborah@epa.gov]
From: OBrien, Wendy
Sent: Wed 8/12/2015 1:46:56 PM
Subject: FW: Screening levels for recreational receptors at the Gold King Mine Site

Fyi. Does unified command go all the way to IRIS?

Wendy O'Brien, DVM, PhD, DABT

Toxicologist, Ecosystems Protection and Remediation

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From: Smith, Terry
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 7:14 AM
To: OBrien, Wendy
Cc: Woodyard, Josh; Tulis, Dana; Cheatham, Reggie
Subject: Fw: Screening levels for recreational receptors at the Gold King Mine Site

Hi Wendy:

I know this is probably late, but wanted to pass this along from ORD staff on the recreational level document you sent out yesterday.

Terry

From: Garrahan, Kevin
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 8:53 AM
To: Smith, Terry
Subject: FW: Screening levels for recreational receptors at the Gold King Mine Site

FYI.

From: Flowers, Lynn
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 8:11 AM
To: Koglin, Eric; Cogliano, Vincent; Shannon, Teresa
Cc: Sayles, Gregory; Garrahan, Kevin; Olden, Kenneth; Ross, Mary
Subject: RE: Screening levels for recreational receptors at the Gold King Mine Site

Eric et al:

- I looked through the screening level information for the inorganics that have been found in the spill and nothing jumps out as incorrect. However, there doesn't appear to be a dermal component for exposure to the surface water, which one would encounter on the way to the sediment and perhaps to get the water to drink. The write up is silent on that issue and should probably mention that it is missing, and how much of an impact it might have on the screening levels...or else include dermal exposure in the calculations.
- Otherwise, this is a pretty conservative analysis with a hiker/camper actually drinking the water as a sole source on a daily basis (2 liters/day) for 64 days, and ingesting some of the sediment (100 mg/day) for that same time period.
- Depending on who is going to be using this information, I would recommend that the equations for deriving the screening levels for soil and water be added. It just strikes me as missing, primarily for the sake of transparency and for anyone who would want to reproduce the numbers.
- In reality, this analysis (with the exception of the dermal component) is pretty close to what you would also do if the water were a source of water for drinking/showering/bathing for the surrounding communities (as the hiker/camper is using the water as sole source drinking water). Including the normal showering component for inhalation probably would NOT change the screening levels much, because the inorganics are largely not volatile. Again, I am not sure about the dermal exposure and how much that would contribute.

- It might not be a bad idea to include how these screening levels might align with the “community drinking water scenario” in the write up—assuming Region 8 would agree! Again, just an observation and potential suggestion for them.

We have a couple of folks here who could double-check the input parameters, toxicity values and final screening levels if you would like a second set of eyes on the details. And also think more (than I know) about the dermal issue.

I will call Kevin now.

Lynn

Lynn Flowers, PhD, DABT

Associate Director for Health

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From: Koglin, Eric

Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 7:36 PM

To: Flowers, Lynn; Cogliano, Vincent; Shannon, Teresa

Cc: Sayles, Gregory; Garrahan, Kevin; Olden, Kenneth; Ross, Mary

Subject: Screening levels for recreational receptors at the Gold King Mine Site

All

I'm helping to coordinate ORD's reachback support to the Gold King Mine release. The Regions are pulling together a lot of data and information. The attached is a draft document developed by Region 8 that provides screening levels that they want to use for recreational receptors for the Animas and San Juan River users.

I would appreciate it if you could take a quick look at the information in the attached to see if anything jumps out at you. ORD did not receive this document until after review comments were due at 1900 EST today, but I think it's important for our ORD experts to take a look just in case something was missed.

Hopefully you'll be able to find a few minutes to look this over first thing in your morning or if you think there is someone else that should be contacted.

Please contact Kevin Garrahan at 202-250-8924 (ORD Desk in the EOC) or me as soon as you can tomorrow.

I apologize for the rush.

Eric

Eric Koglin

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